

In the Specification:

Please amend the specification as shown:

Please delete the paragraph on page 10, line 30 to page 11, line 28, and replace it with the following paragraph:

Figure 2 shows the design of a peptide that disrupts the internal N-region trimeric coiled-coil in the pre-hairpin intermediate state of gp41. **Panel a**, helical wheel representation illustrating the interaction between the N-and C-regions of gp41 in the trimer of hairpins as observed in the solution (Caffrey, M. *et al.* (1998) "THREE-DIMENSIONAL SOLUTION STRUCTURE OF THE 44 KDA ECTODOMAIN OF SIV . GP41" EMBO J. 17:4572-4584) and crystal (Chan, D. C. *et al.* (1997) "CORE STRUCTURE OF GP41 FROM THE HIV ENVELOPE GLYCOPROTEIN," Cell 89:263-273; Weissenhorn, W. *et al.* (1997)"ATOMIC STRUCTURE OF THE ECTODOMAIN FROM HIV-1 GP41," Nature 387:426-430; Tan, K. J. *et al.* (1997) "ATOMIC STRUCTURE OF A THERMOSTABLE SUBDOMAIN OF HIV-1 GP41," Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. (U.S.A.) 94:12303-12308; Malashkevich, V.N. *et al.* (1998) "CRYSTAL STRUCTURE OF THE SIMIAN IMMUNODEFICIENCY VIRUS (SIV) GP41 CORE: CONSERVED HELICAL INTERACTIONS UNDERLIE THE BROAD INHIBITORY ACTIVITY OF GP41 PEPTIDES," Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A. 95,9134-9139) structures of the fusogenic/postfusogenic state of the ectodomain of gp41. The intermolecular contacts between the N-helices occur between *positions a* and *d* of the helical wheel. Contacts between the N-and C-helices (intra-and intermolecular) involves residues at *positions e* and *g* of the N-helices and *positions a* and *d* of the C-helices. **Panel b**, peptide sequences. The N36 peptide (**SEQ ID NO: 1**) comprises residues 546-581 of the N-region of HIV-1 gp41, and the C34 peptide (**SEQ ID NO: 2**) comprises residues 628-661 of the C-region of HIV-1 gp41. N36 and C34 associate to form a six-helix bundle whose structure has been solved crystallographically (Chan, D.C. *et al.* (1997) "CORE STRUCTURE OF GP41 FROM

THE HIV ENVELOPE GLYCOPROTEIN," Cell 89:263-273). In the N36^{Mut(e,g)} mutant **(SEQ ID NO: 3)**, the residues at *positions e* and *g* of N36 have been substituted by residues at *positions e* and *g*, respectively, of C34; this effectively removes the interaction surface with C34 but preserves the contacts necessary to form a trimeric coiled-coil of N-helices. In the N36^{Mut(a,d)} mutant **(SEQ ID NO: 4)**, the residues at *positions a* and *d* of N36 have been substituted by residues at *positions f* and *c*, respectively, of C34; this removes the contacts necessary to form the trimeric coil-coil of N-helices but preserves the interaction sites with C34.

Please delete the paragraph on page 14, lines 17-18, and replace it with the following paragraph:

As used herein, the "C34 peptide" has the amino acid sequence:

WMEWDREINN YTSLIHSLIE EESQNNQKEKN EQELL **(SEQ ID NO:2)**
 1 10 20 30 35